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SUBJECT: IOM DG CANDIDATE AMBASSADOR BILL SWING:
PARIS-BASED AFRICAN MISSIONS' RESPONSES

REF: STATE 56181

(SBU) In response to reftel, we received the following responses from Paris-based missions:

-- Gambia: Ambassador Moses Jallow said on May 28 that he would travel to Geneva for the June 18 election and would vote for Ambassador Swing. He recalled favorably his recent meeting in Paris with Ambassador Swing and said "tell Washington that I will be there and that we will support him with full force."

-- Guinea-Bissau: At the request of the G-B Embassy in Paris, we provided on May 28 a non-paper on the IOM election, drawn from reftel. Our contact said that G-B's foreign minister would be in Paris over the May 31-June 1 weekend and that the matter would be referred to the minister. In a follow-up conversation on June 3, our contact at the G-B Embassy in Paris said that he did refer the matter to his minister during the latter's transit through Paris the previous weekend (the minister was returning from the TICAD meeting in Tokyo). Our contact said that the minister told him that the matter would be referred to G-B's UN PermRep, who handles all matters involving international organizations. Our contact could not say how the UN PermRep would coordinate voting in Geneva nor whether G-B would support Ambassador Swing. He was quite effusive, however, in expressing G-B's desire to be helpful on this issue.

-- Liberia: After several exchanges, our contact at the Liberian Embassy in Paris told us on June 3 that Liberia's Ambassador to France would attend the meeting and would vote. When asked, our contact declined to say for whom Liberia would vote, remarking that her Ambassador would receive his instructions from Monrovia, that she would not necessarily be privy to those instructions, and therefore was not in a position to say how Liberia would vote.

-- Togo: Kokou Kpayedo, who handles IO issues at Togo's Embassy in Paris, told us on May 30 that his mission had not received any instructions either on how Togo would vote or on whether someone from his mission would travel to Geneva to represent Togo at the election. He expected that someone from Togo would go to Geneva, but said that his Embassy could receive instructions "at the last minute."

Please visit Paris' Classified Website at:

<http://www.state.sgov.gov/p/eur/paris/index.cfm>

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